

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany REPORT
TOPIC Military Activity in the Letzing Heath and Neuruppin

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 5 November 1954

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REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. a headquarters which included Generals Patov and Grechko and Field Marshal Paulus moved from Born-Flanken to Hillersleben on 3 October 1954. At midnight on 4 October, 6 buses which were occupied by field-grade officers passed through Wedringen. The buses came from the north and proceeded eastward. On that day, elements of the units returned to the installations in Hillersleben and passed in review before the generals. At 0700 on 15 October, 5 T-34/85 tanks, ammunition, billeting equipment and 2 boxcarloads of soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were unloaded in Hillersleben. On 19 October, the installations ~~were~~ only partially occupied.¹

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2. At 0630 on 3 October, reports of heavy artillery pieces were heard in Jaevenitz from a southerly direction for about 1 hour. At 1500, approximately 30 T-34/85 tanks entered the Waldlager southeast of Jaevenitz from the direction of Hottendorf. Prior to 10 October, the camp was partially occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets.

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3. Between 27 September and 9 October, the Fliegerhorst Kaserne (5101) in Gardelegen was occupied to capacity. Soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets entered and left the installation.²

4. At 2300 on 9 October, a train of 20 flatcars and 22 boxcars carrying 20 trucks with billeting equipment passed through Haldensleben. The train presumably came from Hillersleben and proceeded toward Magdeburg. At midnight on 12 October, a train of approximately 30 flatcars and 10 boxcars carrying trucks with billeting equipment and soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets left Haldensleben toward Magdeburg. Truck were seen.

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 loadings had continually taken place at the Haldensleben station on 15 October. These loadings included a shipment of T-34 tanks.³

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5. At 1130 and after 1630 on 14 October, major columns of armored personnel carriers, trucks and jeeps with soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen on Karl Marx Str-asse in Neuruppin en route toward

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the Friedrich-Franz Kaserne (2201). On 16 October, the Neuruppin kasernes were heavily occupied.

6. After 1600 on 14 October, 22 BA-64 armored scout cars, 15 armored personnel carriers, 4 x 37-mm AA guns, approximately 90 trucks

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and 10 field kitchens were seen on Wittstocker Allee en route toward Neuruppin. In the evening on 14 October, approximately 95 percent of the windows of the Neuruppin kasernes were lit.⁴

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1. Comment. [redacted] one General Patov (fnu) from Moscow inspected the troops in Hillersleben on 18 September. [redacted] This Patov may be identical with General Major P. I. Batov who was reportedly stationed in the Kaliningrad area in the spring of 1954. Batov is believed to be commander of an army, possibly a mechanized army, in this area. During the maneuvers of the Third Shock Army, the same source reported the presence in Hillersleben on 7 October of a headquarters with Marshal Zhukov and Field Marshal Paulus. [redacted] Units of the 19th Gds. Pancz Div from Hillersleben apparently practiced in the southern portion of the Letzling Heath until 19 October. This agrees with observations made in 1993, according to which [redacted] the division from Hillersleben conducted small-scale [redacted] training grounds after the training grounds had been evacuated.

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2. Comment. [redacted] elements of the 16th Gds. Tank SP Regt of the 207th Mtz Rifle Div entered the Waldlager. The information confirms again that units of this division participated in the maneuvers of the Third Shock Army. [redacted] The Fliegerhorst Kaserne in Gardelogen is believed to have been occupied by the 598th Mtz Rifle Regt of the division until 9 October.

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3. [redacted]

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4. Comment. Units of the 12th Gds Tank Div returned from fall exercises of the division in the Wittstock area, which exercises apparently terminated on 15 October. [redacted]

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